



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Witbeck, Norman C.

Serial No.: 10/603,907

Group Art Unit:

Filed: June 25, 2003

For: TOWED TRANSPORT, LAUNCH AND RECOVERY RAFT

**Commissioner for Patents**  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**Preliminary Statements:**

Applicant submits herewith patents, publications, or other information of which he is aware, which he believes to be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

While this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is *prior art* for or material to this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.56(g)) or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the date of filing the application.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of 1/9/92, 1135 O.G. 13-25 at 25.

**Statement With Respect To Listing of Information:**

A list of the patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached form PTO/SB/08A.

**Statements With Respect To Foreign Language Patents or Publications:**

A list of the foreign patent(s) and/or publication(s) is set forth on the attached form PTO/SB/08A.

**Statements With Respect To Copies of Listed Information Items:**

A copy of each of the items listed on PTO/SB/08A is supplied herewith except for the following, which I hereby state in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56(b) are not in my possession.

None.

**Concise Explanation of Listed Information Items:**

A concise explanation is given for each item listed on PTO/SB/08A:

**U.S. Pat. No. 6,178,914; Axellsson;** method for launching and taking aboard a raft or other floating device.

**U.S. Pat. No. 4,276,846; Anderson;** recovery apparatus for partially submerged article.

**U.S. Pat. No. 3,448,712; Lehmann et al.;** floats for docking and towing seacraft.

**U.S. Pat. No. 2,748,740; Villar;** catamaran.

**U.S. Pat. No. 3,593,684; Cagliano;** collapsible catamaran.

**U.S. Pat. No. 3,757,722; Seiple**; submersible submersible underway docking unit.

**U.S. Pat. No. 3,787,910; Taylor**; amphibious vehicle.

**U.S. Pat. No. 3,796,175; Ford, Jr. et al.**; catamaran.

**U.S. Pat. No. 4,040,134; Downing**; pontoon boat.

**U.S. Pat. No. 5,188,054; Jacobs, Jr.**; apparatus for towing multi-hull watercraft.

**U.S. Pat. No. 5,353,733; Evans**; folding boat with wheels.

**U.S. Pat. No. 5,826,533; Stangroom et al.**; twin-hulled boad.

**U.S. Pat. No. 5,997,217; Verret**; shallow water well drilling apparatus.

**U.S. Pat. No. 6,359,833; English**; underwater small target weapon.

**U.S. Pat. No. 4,295,236; Upchurch**; pontoon boat.

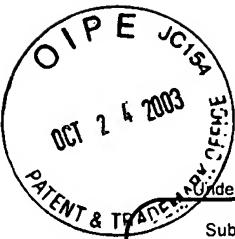
**PCT WO/ 84/02504; Kitner**; watercraft and towing and floatation device.

**Identification of Person Making This Information Disclosure Statement:**

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information in the attorney's file, supplied by the inventor(s) and reviewed by the attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Lundy  
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
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**Complete if Known**

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of 1

Application Number	10/603,907
Filing Date	June 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	Witbeck, Norman C.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket Number CREC-2

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 6,178,914	01/30/2001	Axelsson	
		US- 4,276,846	07/07/1981	Anderson	
		US- 3,448,712	06/10/1969	Lehmann et al.	
		US- 2,748,740	06/05/1956	Villar	
		US- 3,593,684	07/20/1971	Cogliano	
		US- 3,757,722	09/11/1973	Seiple	
		US- 3,787,910	01/29/1974	Taylor	
		US- 3,796,175	03/12/1974	Ford, Jr. et al.	
		US- 4,040,134	08/09/1977	Downing	
		US- 5,188,054	02/23/1993	Jacobs, Jr.	
		US- 5,353,733	10/11/1994	Evans	
		US- 5,826,533	10/27/1998	Stangroom et al.	
		US- 5,997,217	12/07/1999	Verret	
		US- 6,359,833	03/19/2002	English	
		US- 4,295,236	10/20/1991	Upchurch	
		US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		PCT WO/84 02504	07/05/1984	Kitner		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

	Application Number	10/603,907	
	Filing Date	June 25, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Witbeck, Norman C.	
	Art Unit		
	Examiner Name		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	95	Attorney Docket Number	CREC-2

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences	
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<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>			
Firm or Individual name	David A. Lundy Krieg DeVault Cundy LLP		
Signature			
Date	October 21, 2003		

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Michelle Birk		
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